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MYSURU Friday 23rd October 2020
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Pvt. Hospitals under watch

- DC forms team to check excess billing for COVID patients in General Ward only
- Call Mob: 74112-20187 or Mob: 94498-43060 to lodge complaints

Mysuru, Oct.23 (MTY&SSV)- Taking serious note of complaints about fleecing of COVID-19 patients by Private Hospitals under the garb of treatment, the District Administration has requested citizens to bring it to its notice hefty bills by any Hospital for a patient admitted in General Ward so that the bills can be examined for irrelevant charges and if found to be so, the extra billed amount could be refunded to the patients' family.

"We will keep a close watch on all 64 Private Hospitals in the district. A team headed by

Rohini Sindhuri, DC

Dr. Ravi, Family Planning Officer and comprising officials from various Departments, has been constituted mainly to look into the fat bills charged to the Corona positive patients by Private Hospitals. Upon receipt of complaints, the team members will visit the Hospital concerned and make the management to return the excess money collected from the patients," Deputy Commissioner Rohini Sindhuri shared this information on a social media interaction forum this morning.

(See PVT. HOSPITALS on page 8)

Mysuru COVID-19 UPDATE

Figures as per Government Media Bulletin released last evening

Positive cases yesterday	:	308
Total positive cases	:	46,172
Discharges yesterday	:	1,352
Total discharges	:	41,238
Deaths yesterday	:	04
Total deaths	:	936
Total active cases	:	3,998

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STAR PUNCH

By Satish Acharya

STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Friday 23rd October 2020

Yuva Sangeetha Sambhrama-2020

Online Concert by Vidu. Madhuri Koushik

Mysuru, Oct. 23- Sri Thyagaraja Sangeetha Sabha, Mysuru, is coming up with a series of online music concerts, 'Yuva Sangeetha Sambhrama-2020,' showcasing the promising next generation artistes.

The opening concert under the series, by Vidu. Madhuri Koushik, will be premièred on its YouTube channel at 5 pm on Saturday (Oct. 24).

Madhuri Koushik had her music training from Vidu. Rohini Manjunath and Vidu. Dr. Sukanya Prabhakar. Currently she is pursuing higher training under Vidu. Ranjani and Gayatri, Chennai. She has completed her Vidwat exam with distinction and is a recipient of both CCRT Scholarship and Scholarship for Young Artistes from Ministry of Culture, Government of India.

Madhuri has performed and won several laurels from many prestigious organisations including HCL Series, The Madras Music Academy, Gayana Samaja and Indian Institute of World Culture, Bengaluru and 'Promising Talent-2019' award from Kartikeya Gana Sabha, Hyderabad.

Vid. M.S. Jayaram (mridanga), Vid. M.J. Prasannakumar (ghata) and **Vidu. C.V. Shruthi (violin),** will be accompanying her in this online concert. Music lovers may watch the concert by visiting Sabha's YouTube channel at Sri Thyagaraja Sangeetha Sabha Charitable Trust *[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5duKEUSvk8XXBra6TWQnSA]* and support the young artistes and their 'Yuva Sangeetha Sambhrama-2020' online concert series, according to a press release from the Sabha Hon. Secretary Vid. H.K. Narasimhamurthy.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

The nine nights and days of Navaratri indicate the darkness of ignorance present in us and ways to bring in the light of knowledge that will remove the darkness. Krishna says in the Gita that because of ignorance, humanity is suffering. Devi, the feminine aspect of nature, is venerated during Navaratri. The first three days are dedicated to Durga, destroyer of inertia; the next three days to Laskhmi to overcome passion and the last three days to Saraswati to embrace the pure aspect of nature. The tenth day, Vijayadashami, celebrates the victory over all these three – tamas, rajas and sattva. The Vedas say, listen carefully; practise shravanam, that is, listen in totality. Ved Vyasa says, 'Go on listening till you understand'. We have a gross body and deep within is the subtle body and our soul which is consciousness, awareness. Rakshasa in the gross form has a gross body and represents our disorganized energy. When anger, hatred and jealousy exist, they generate disorganised energy; it makes you miserable. Whereas if you have compassion, love, caring and silence within, it is organised energy; Godly energy. Disorganised energy is a demon. Each demon in the Navaratri story represents a type of disorderliness. The tenth day also celebrates the defeat of Ravana by Rama. Ravana's ten heads signify negative energies and impure mind. Rama symbolises Atma, soul and Sita stands for hridaya, heart. Therefore, listening to scriptures and performing service help to purify the mind.

— Swami Sukhabodhananda in The Times of India

NEWS SPARKLERS

Artist brings dead bugs back to life as insect fairies

Amsterdam: An Amsterdam-based artist is creating strange and frightening yet intriguing sculptures of fairies by piecing together various dead insect parts.

Artist Cedric Laquieze, over the last 20 years, has created hundreds of unique insect fairies by piecing together bug parts that complement each other in terms of color and texture. He collects dead insects specimens given to him by breeders, takes them apart and then glues various parts (shells, legs, antennae, wings, etc.) together to create his fantastic faeries. Although some people are creeped out by Cedric's creations, others find them utterly fascinating and praise the artist for piecing together creatures that look almost lifelike.

World's knife-throwing champion, a Russian granny

Sasovo: A retired woman from Russian town of Sasovo, who took up knife throwing as a hobby, has ended up becoming an eight time National Champion, European Champion and even a World Champion.

Galina Chuvina was 56 years old when she discovered knife throwing, back in 2007. The pensioner had landed a simple job in the coat check section of the local pool, taking people's clothes and handing out numbers. One day, two young people came by to discuss the possibility of opening a knife throwing club on the premises and Galina became one of the first people to enroll for knife throwing training.

Just a month-and-a-half of training, the pensioner learned that her home town would soon host a knife throwing competition with around 50 participants, including soldiers, professional knife throwers, as well as amateurs like her. She signed up, and shocked the audience by wining first place.

HEALTH CAPSULE by Bron Smith

How much of the human body consists of water?

Up to 60% of the adult male human body is water. Females contain less water, 55%. The brain and heart are composed of 73% water. Even bones, which may appear dry, are 31% water. At birth, babies are 78% water.

** Health Capsules is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature.*

COVID-19 UPDATE

Mandya

Figures as per Government Media Bulletin released last evening

Positive cases yesterday	:	191
Total positive cases	:	15,773
Total discharges	:	13,993
Total deaths	:	137
Total active cases	:	1,643

Chamarajanagar

Positive cases yesterday	:	29
Total positive cases	:	5,687
Total discharges	:	5,095
Total deaths	:	107
Total active cases	:	474

Kodagu

Positive cases yesterday	:	49
Total positive cases	:	4,576
Total discharges	:	3,994
Total deaths	:	60
Total active cases	:	522

Hassan

Positive cases yesterday	:	95
Total positive cases	:	23,865
Total discharges	:	21,385
Total deaths	:	364
Total active cases	:	2,116

Really...?

- ***Your tongue has between 2,000 and 4,000 taste buds. You can't see your taste buds. You have taste buds in other places besides your tongue. The tongue is not the strongest muscle in your body. You don't sense different tastes in different areas of the tongue.***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Mother: *Why did you get such a low mark on that test?*

Junior: *Because of absence.*

Mother: *You mean you were absent on the day of the test?*

Junior: *No, but the kid who sits next to me was !!??*

Today's Currency Rate

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 73.58
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 96.06
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 20.03
1 Euro	= Rs. 86.81

VOICE OF THE READER

Suspension of DL for not wearing helmet

Sir,

In yet another attempt to make wearing helmets compulsory by riders of motorised two-wheelers, including minors above four years of age, implementation of suspension of DL for three months has been contemplated by State Transport Department recently. When the Central Government increased penalties for traffic violations, public made a hue and cry. As a result, some Governments, including Karnataka, yielding to pressure, have reduced the fine amount.

However, motorists continue this major road safety violation across the country including in our State and city. The increasing number of cases booked against riders without a helmet in Bengaluru alone has increased from 16.4 lakhs in 2018, 20.3 lakhs in 2019 to 20.7 lakhs up to Sept. 2020, indicating that increased penalties could not bring any change in the mindset of the riders.

When people do not fear for their own life and not bother about their family members, they may not fear the rules, including DL suspension. Once again, people may object to this rule and put pressure on the Government to withdraw it. Otherwise, at the maximum, they may wear it only at the signals to fool CCTV cameras and remove them after crossing it, as is being done even now. Some riders are ready to carry it on their hands, but not for wearing it on their heads.

Motivating such people is a major task ahead for Governments across the country to reduce the deaths of vulnerable riders.

— **Dr. S. V. N. Vijayendra**
Mysuru 21.10.2020

Rangayana technical staff to stage play 'Door No. 8' on Oct. 25

Mysuru, Oct. 23- After a long gap due to COVID-19, Rangayana is restarting its Weekend Shows with the staging of play 'Door No. 8' on Sunday (Oct. 25) at its Bhoomigeeta auditorium at 6.30 pm. The play, written by Kavya Kadame Nagarakatte, will be enacted by technical staff of Rangayana — Music Assistant R.C. Dhananjaya and Light Designer Mahesh Kullatti. Music and Direction: R.C. Dhananjaya; Stage Design: Viddu Ucchil; Light: Krishnakumar Narnakaje; Costume: N. Divya; Management: Krishna Prasad; Co-operation: Rangayana Senior Artistes.

Staging of play 'Rabdi'

Mysuru, Oct. 23- As part of 'Ranga Vartula - Dashakada Sambhrama' (Decennial Celebration) series of Ranga Vartula, the play 'Rabdi' will be staged at Natana Rangashale in Ramakrishnanagar on Oct. 25 at 6.30pm.

The play, which has been staged at several State and National Theatre Festivals, has the credit of being the only Kannada play to be staged over 75 times across the State and given 20 houseful shows across America. Director: Nithish Sridhar; Writer: Naushil Mehta, Nithish Sridhar and Hemalatha Lokesh; Music: Raghunandan Ramakrishna. For details and tickets, contact Mob: 73495-74448.

The play Rabdi revolves around Saavantri and her mentally retarded child. Dreams of a better future for her child remain unfulfilled, yet Saavantri does not lose hope. She offers to become a surrogate mother for an IT couple in return for money to enroll her child to a special school. Rabdi deals with motherhood, love, aspirations and priorities individuals make in their lives, touching upon major societal issues, solutions and trading of human emotions for personal benefits. Will Saavantri be able to give up 'her' second child or does her motherly love come in the way....?

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Fort Town ready for low-key Dasara this evening

Preparations underway at Dasara Bannimantapa in Kirangur, Srirangapatna taluk. Picture right shows the illuminated Mantapa.

Srirangapatna, Oct.23 (Mohan & Vinay Karekura)-- The Fort Town of Srirangapatna, a historic place from the point of view of Wadiyars of Mysore, is all set to witness a scaled-down Dasara sans elephants due to COVID-19, this evening.

History has it that Dasara was the long-held celebrations of the Vijayanagar Kingdom. However, after Srirangapatna was captured by Raja Wadiyar I from Sriranga Raya (of Vijayanagar dynasty) in 1610, he continued the tradition as 'Victory Parade'. Srirangapatna was the capital of Mysore Rulers then. However, after they shifted their capital to Mysore in 1799, the celebrations too shifted to Mysuru, and it began to fade in Srirangapatna and almost came to a stop, till a decade ago.

In fact, the celebrations in this Fort Town were restarted in 2007 after the media began highlighting the importance of Srirangapatna Dasara. Here, the celebrations would not be ten-day-long but have been restricted to three days.

The 500-year-old Batheri with flagpole in Srirangapatna where cultural events will be held.

This year, the State Government has decided to hold the Srirangapatna Dasara symbolically without bringing the Dasara elephants for the *Jamboo Savari*. Instead, it is celebrated as ***'Sri Chamundeshwari Rathotsava'*** and the idol of Goddess Chamundeshwari will be taken out in a bedecked vehicle at around 4 pm. The idol procession will be taken out on the main roads of the town.

According to officials, a dais has been created at Batheri, which is 70 feet above the ground where the cultural programmes are scheduled this evening. The Batheri is said to have been constructed five centuries ago by the Vijayanagar rulers for the soldiers to guard the town. Only artistes will be allowed to the dais because of COVID-19 guidelines. Ten LED screens are put up in and around the Batheri for citizens to watch programme. The residents can also watch programme from the rooftop of their houses.

Inspection

Srirangapatna MLA Ravindra Srikantaiah inspected the arrangements for Dasara including the Batheri yesterday. Later, he spoke to Mandya Superintendent of Police Parashuram, Deputy Superintendent of Police Arun Nagegowda, Assistant Commissioner Dr. Shivanandamurthy, Tahsildhar M.V. Roopa, Town Municipality Officer Krishnappa and others, and took details of the celebrations.

The highlight of this year's Dasara is opening of festivities by Corona warriors. Tourism, Kannada and Culture Minister C.T. Ravi will be the chief guest.

Rs. 50 lakh grants for Srirangapatna Dasara

Dasara Special Officer and Deputy Commissioner of Mysuru has sanctioned Rs.50 lakh to Mandya District Administration towards the celebration of Srirangapatna Dasara. Instruction has been given to spend that money only on Dasara festival and not on other activities.

Police Band & Fusion Music at Mysore Palace

Mysuru, Oct. 23 (KS)- The Police Band gave a scintillating performance by playing various musical compositions, both classical and western on the sixth day of Dasara cultural programmes in the backdrop of illuminated Mysore Palace for limited audience yesterday.

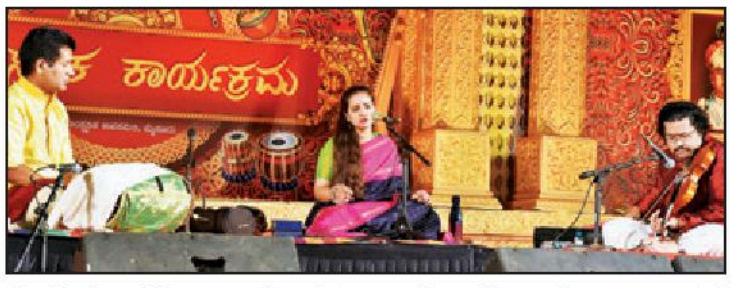
Beginning with Basavappa Shastry's composition 'Kayo Sri Gowri,' the official anthem of the then Kingdom of Mysore, followed by 'Sri Mahaganapathim,' which was composed by erstwhile ruler Sri Jayachamaraja Wadiyar.

Later, Immanuel Francis and Tony Mathew of the Karnataka Band presented a piano and violin jugalbandi, followed by Adi Shankaracharya's composition 'Ayigiri Nandini Nanditha Medini,' played by the Karnataka Band. They also played a popular film song 'Kana kanade Sharade, from the film *Apthamithra* and devotional song 'Bhagyada Lakshmi Baramma.'

The Western Band, under Tony Mathew played 'Final Countowndown,' Bethoven's Piano solo and 'Jai Ho' under Christopher Francis and 'Believer' and 'Lay all your Love' under Tony Mathew, which mesmerised the audience.

Prizes were presented to the Karnataka and Western Police Band members by the dignitaries on the occasion.

Deputy Commissioner Rohini Sindhuri, City Police Commissioner Dr. Chandragupta, Zilla Panchayat CEO D. Bharathi and others were present.



Varijashree Venugopal and troupe from Bengaluru presented Fusion Music at Mysore Palace yesterday evening. She was accompanied by Praveen D. Rao on Keyboard, B.C. Manjunath on Mridanga, Pramatha Kiran on multi-percussions and Mathura Srinidhi on Violin.

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Cheil-6047/20

Dasara event cancelled but spirit is high...

Home Gardens bloom amid COVID

By Shyam Sundar Vattam

COVID-19 pandemic may have eclipsed Mysuru Dasara festival, but it has failed to dampen the spirit of gardeners who have continued to take care of their hand-bred plants, watered with love and affection. One of the main attractions of Dasara festivities every year has been the garden competition specially conducted for citizens. Participants showcase their talent through rearing plants of different species and varieties. It is not an easy cup of coffee as preparation would start 6-8 months in advance to ensure that flowers bloom exactly during Dasara time.

The Department of Horticulture holds competition in gardening in various categories and one among them has been the Home Garden Contest for the citizens — ornamental garden, rooftop garden, vertical garden and lawn — for which three prizes are given in each category.

Some persons are very much fascinated to this hobby and spend hours together in their garden looking at every plant as if they are kids. Horticulturists are consulted regularly and sometimes invited home to see plants' health. Experienced gardeners are sought after because of their deep knowledge about fruit and flower-bearing plants. Festive atmosphere prevail at home to invite friends and relatives to see the garden. Sometimes judges themselves are confused in deciding the winners as each and every garden looks fabulous.

Although, the gardening competition was cancelled this year due to COVID-19, participants have not stopped taking care of their plants.

"All the events and competitions are cancelled this time due to Corona threat. We are disappointed. But nothing is more important than life. There is always a next time," a majority of gardeners, who have won prizes in previous competitions, told *Star of Mysore*.

Waste not wasted by nonagenarian

Ninety-year-old C. Saldanha, a resident of Saraswathipuram, is perhaps the oldest participant in Dasara Home Garden competition. He has been participating in this competition since 1978 and has bagged several prizes in the last four decades. Age has not stopped him from involving actively in gardening. He has bagged a shield for winning consecutively for three successive years. A variety of roses and Bougainvillea still adores his garden. The used plastic milk sachets are reused to plant saplings. "Earlier, I had 500-600 varieties of plants, but now, it has been reduced due to my age factor. Apart from gardening, I have secured first prizes in birds show, cat show and dog show. I am still actively involved in Horticulture Society."

This time, the competition was not held due to Corona pandemic. Some things are beyond their control and we should be ready to accept the reality, he said.

Safety is paramount

Rashmi Ravindra, another avid gardner and a resident of Siddarthanagar, is feeling sorry for the cancellation of her favourite competition this time. Having won several prizes in Ornamental Garden category, she had added new plants in the garden but the event got cancelled. "Nothing can be done as the entire world is hit by Corona pandemic. Safety of every individual is very important," she opined.

Caring plants is worth experience

B.K. Ranganath, a resident of Vidyaranyapuram, has converted the entire terrace into a beautiful garden. Flower, vegetable and fruit-bearing plants have dotted the roof garden. He has used the unskinned dry coconut to plant ornamental plants and hung it in the garden which is giving a natural look. "I find pleasure in watering plants. Spending time amidst plants is totally a different experience. Apart from home garden, Dasara dolls are arranged in my home. More than winning prizes, taking care of plants is worth experiencing," he noted.

Spreading positivity

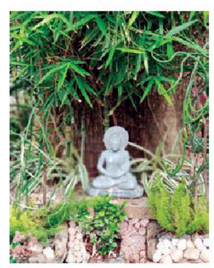
Shamala Prasanna of Lakshmipuram, one of the active participants in Home Garden competition and a winner of competition in Ornamental Garden (medium scale) category, said she was disappointed when she learnt that this time the Dasara Home Garden competition was cancelled. It was definitely a bitter sweet moment as this would have been her silver jubilee (25 years) participation year in the competition and something she was really looking forward to since previous Dasara. "Though the competition is cancelled, I still want to share photos of my garden and spread some positivity in a world of negativity and being unsure when things will return to normal.

My hobby of gardening has been therapeutic and has kept me going. Since these past 7 months, I have been able to channel all my energies to tend, love and care for my garden and my plants. My hard work finally paid off when I saw my plants respond; they are now greener, healthier and more beautiful than ever. The bonsais are the ones that I worked the most on since the lockdown and have created a few landscapes. Further, I created some vertical frames using succulents and have reorganised the arrangements in every corner of my garden to give it a fresh look."

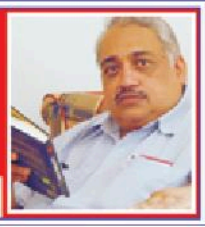
Spirit not dented

Five-time winner, **A. Pallavi Adarsh,** a resident of Vani Vilasa Mohalla, has been contesting and winning prizes almost every year, under 'Individual Bungalow' category. "Initially, I felt disappointed when they announced that Home Garden competition is cancelled this year due to COVID-19. Participating in Dasara Garden exhibition and competition year after year has brought boundless joy. This year has been different, but it doesn't dampen our spirits to grow green.

My garden houses fruit bearing trees like Mango, Avocado, Jackfruit, Chickoo, Custard Apple, Papaya and Gooseberry; Plantation crops include Coconut & Lemon; Lawns of various kinds; Ornamental plants like Dresina Colorama, Cycus, Star Light, Panda, Golden Cyprus, Aloe Vera, Jade, Mayuri, Alfinia, Big Lily, Pendanus, Acalifa, Croton, Jamia Phycus, Bamboo Grass, Nalina & Golden Dave (border plants) besides a variety of flowers.



Over a cup of evening Tea



By Dr. K. Javeed Nayeem, MD

Our Strange COVID-19 War !

Like the rest of the world we too are engaged in waging a war on **COVID-19,** the global pandemic. Like the way each country is fighting this problem in its own way, our country too is no different in having its own battle strategy. While some measures have been good and sensible, a good many of them are not, which is not very surprising, considering the fact that all Government policies are framed by different heads and are governed by different considerations.

Yes, while a few heads are brilliant there are a good many that are good only at the time of taking the head-count! But I wonder where the brilliant heads of our State were while drafting the policy that is now governing the way we here in our State are celebrating our Dasara, while claiming to be keeping in mind the great priority of keeping COVID-19 at bay?

In this sloppy exercise that is now beginning to look rather futile, we seem to be running with the hare while hunting with the hound! Like I said in my last article about our Dasara and COVID-19, on one front we have lit up our entire city like how we used to in the years before to attract people from far and wide and on the other front we have declared that all our tourist attractions will remain closed for the entire duration of the Dasara.

And, having closed them down we have installed brand new sign boards at all our road junctions that are supposed to show all the new-comers to our city the way to reach them! Now, what is supposed to be the purpose of these seemingly purpose-less boards?

The answer is clear that this too is a kind of surrogate advertising, not unlike what is commonly resorted to by cigarette and liquor companies, to circumvent the rules banning any advertising, while effectively promoting what they produce! Under the pretence that it is effectively observing all the recommended measures to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 infection, our Government is hell bent on showcasing our Dasara to all the people who will eventually flock to the city attracted by the glitz and glitter that it has set up.

And, it is clear that this is being done by our *netas* and *babus* who have king-sized vested interests in spending public funds and in the process also pocketing large sums of money as it usually happens in all that they do for themselves, supposedly in our interests! But even if we close one eye or look the other way and ignore this wrong-doing, we as concerned citizens simply cannot close both our eyes to what can be the aftermath of holding a crowd-pulling Dasara.

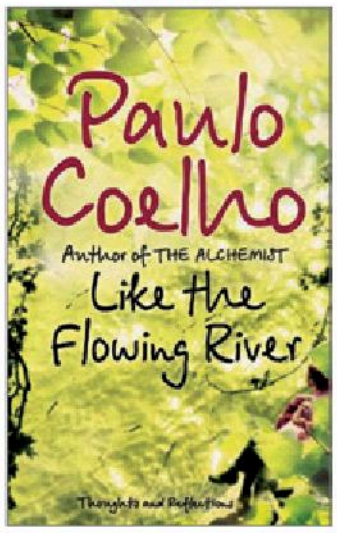
Let us take the example of Kerala, our neighbouring State. It was a State that went on to win accolades for being most successful in the country in containing the pandemic at a time when it was raging with its greatest fury. But when the time came for it to celebrate ***Onam***, its State festival, complacence set in and with the State going soft, we all saw that there was a sudden thirty percent rise in the COVID-19 cases across the entire State in the post festival period. With the mindless way in which we are celebrating our Dasara here in Mysuru, common sense seems to be telling all people endowed with it, that the same is likely to happen, nearer home too.

Perhaps unnerved a little by the strong feedback from the people, our Government has announced that our Health Minister himself will be supervising the Dasara celebration in our city. So the man is very much here and he has expressed his shock and dismay too at the way people are flouting all COVID-19 guidelines, across the length and breadth of the city in their bid to photograph themselves in the backdrop of our Dasara lighting at all our illuminated Circles and prominent landmarks.

The State has admitted that this attitude of the people is causing it great anxiety because we do not have adequate, high-end care equipped medical beds in our State in case there is a post-Dasara spurt in COVID-19 cases. But the time for regret seems to be over, now that we are all in the middle of the muddle that has been thrust upon us, due to wrong Government policies.

Our Government has lit up the city much against our wishes and our mindless people are now doing their part with their irresponsible behaviour on our streets. With the fuse thus lit, all that we can hope is for a slightly muted explosion! **With our Government rocking the cradle while at the same time pinching the baby too, that is all you and I can do!**

Quote Mystery Solved !



Very recently I wrote an article about the lessons we can learn from the life of a humble pencil. It is something I was motivated to do after receiving a message from a close friend **K.S. Gururaja** but its origin seemed to be unknown as in the case of most such *WhatsApp* forwards. Although I did not go on a net hunting spree, I certainly wondered for a moment who might have written it before forgetting about it completely.

But some days later, another close friend **Krishna Prasad,** who was formerly the Editor-in-Chief of *Outlook* news magazine, sent me a link that credits the writer **Paulo Coelho** with having written it in the year 2009 in his blog. It can also be found in his book: ***'Like the Flowing River'*** published by **Harper. A mystery solved may be a mind at peace but more importantly for me is a credit that is given to the right person, especially for some wise or thought-provoking saying!**

[NOTE: Today this column is fifteen years old]

e-mail:
kjnmysore@rediffmail.com

Degree colleges to re-open from Nov. 17

Bengaluru, Oct.23 (SSV)- All degree, engineering and diploma colleges will re-open from Nov. 17 according to University Grants Commission (UGC) guidelines and COVID-19 protocol, said Higher Education Minister Dr. C.N. Ashwathnarayan.

Talking to reporters after meeting Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa here this morning, he said students will not be forced to attend the college as they are permitted to attend classes online. The decision was left to parents on sending their wards to college. Those who wish to come to college must bring letter of consent from their parents. The number of batches and shift will be decided depending upon the response from students to attend the college, he said.

Dr. Ashwathnarayan

He said the Task Force headed by Deputy Commissioner will be constituted for each college. All precautions will be taken at student hostels also. A set of guidelines will be issued by Department of Higher Education soon, he added.

It may be mentioned here that the colleges are set to re-open after a gap of seven months due to pandemic.

Pvt. Hospitals under watch

(Continued from page 1)

To whom it applies

However, according to District Health Officer (DHO) Dr. T. Amarnath, the refund rule is applicable only to those Corona positive patients who are under treatment in General Wards at Private Hospitals.

It is not applicable to those availing treatment in semi-luxury, luxury, deluxe, individual or ICU and patients have to pay whatever fees fixed by the Hospital Management.

Whom to approach

The aggrieved citizens can lodge complaints with Dr. Ravi, Family Planning Officer (Mob: 74112-20187) or DHO Dr. Amarnath (Mob: 94498-43060).

Without mincing words, the DC said the State Government has fixed Rs.10,000 per day as charges for COVID-19 treatment in General Wards of Private Hospitals. No Hospital is supposed to charge over it. The District Administration will not tolerate exploitation of COVID-19 patients in the name of treatment by Private Hospitals.

There are 64 Private Hospitals in the district and each has reserved 24 beds for Corona positive patients. It has been made mandatory for the managements to display the number of beds available for Corona positive patients. Stern action will be initiated against hospitals which defy rules prescribed by the State Government, the Deputy Commissioner added.

Obituary

Ramanna

Mysuru, Oct. 23- Ramanna (65), State President of Samajawadi Party SC/ST Wing and a resident of Yaraganahalli, passed away yesterday in city.

He leaves behind his wife and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at Yaraganahalli Burial Grounds this morning, according to party sources.

Admissions to I PUC in Ekalavya Model PU College

Mysuru, Oct. 23- Applications are invited for admission to vacant seats for first year Pre-University Education (Science - PCMB/ PCMC courses) at Ekalavya Model Residential School and Pre-University College, Sollepura in H.D. Kote taluk for the academic year 2020-21.

ST community students who have passed SSLC are eligible to get free admission and interested candidates can apply before Oct. 24.

For details, contact Mob: 99028-34752 or 80881-29232.

KRS Water Level

(Maximum : 124.80 feet)

Today	**124.80 ft**
Yesterday	**124.80 ft**
Inflow	**6,797 cusecs**
Outflow	**6,541 cusecs**

Harangi Level

(Maximum : 2,859.00 feet)

Today	**2,858.50 ft**
Inflow	**1,973 cusecs**
Outflow	**1,550 cusecs**

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Chief Electoral Officer Sanjiv Kumar gets Ph.D from Mysore University

Seeks blessings of Sri Cheluvanarayanaswamy

Sanjiv Kumar, IAS, seen receiving the Ph.D degree from Higher Education Minister Dr. C.N. Ashwathnarayan and UoM Vice-Chancellor Prof. G. Hemantha Kumar at Crawford Hall here on Monday. Picture right shows the Officer proudly displaying his Certificate.

Mysuru, Oct. 23- The Chief Electoral Officer of Karnataka, Sanjiv Kumar, was among the 654 candidates who received Ph.D degrees in various subjects at the 100th Convocation of University of Mysore (UoM) on Oct. 19.

Sanjiv Kumar, an IAS, started his Ph.D thesis titled **'MGNREGA — Law, Rights, Processes and Sustainable Livelihood: A Critical Study in Karnataka'** in Development Studies under the guidance of Dr. Shrijay Devaraj Urs in 2015.

When contacted he said, "I got permission to take up the research work by the State Government in 2014. When I started my research, I was serving the Rural Development Department. Then, there was not much demand for jobs offered under MGNREGA. Compared to other Southern States, funds utilisation under the scheme was less in Karnataka. This prompted me to carry out research. In my thesis I have suggested ways to improve funds utilisation. It can be replicated for the national job scheme across the country."

The IAS Officer received the Ph.D degree certificate from Higher Education Minister Dr. C.N. Ashwathnarayan, who is also the Pro-Chancellor of the State-run Universities and UoM Vice-Chancellor Prof. G. Hemantha Kumar during the Centenary Convocation ceremony held at Crawford Hall here on Monday.

Visits Melukote

On the previous day, Sanjiv Kumar, along with his family members, visited Sri Cheluvanarayanaswamy temple at Melukote in Mandya district and offered prayers.

They were accorded traditional Purnakumbha welcome at the temple. Mandya Deputy Commissioner Dr. M.V. Venkatesh was also present.

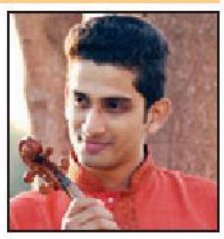
Sanjiv Kumar interacted with the officials and learnt about the importance of the temple. He also had *darshan* and offered prayers at Yoganarasimhaswamy temple, atop the Hill.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Shyalaja, Pandavapura Assistant Commissioner Shivanandamurthy, Temple Executive Officer Mangalamma and Tahsildar Pramod Patil accompanied him.

Mysuru Dasara 2020 Events

AT MYSORE PALACE

DASARA EVENTS TODAY (OCT. 23)



- **7 pm to 8 pm:** Folk Songs by Honnaru Folk Singers — **Dr. P.K. Rajashekar** and troupe, Mysuru.
- **8 pm to 9 pm:** Hindustani-Karnatak Classical Music Jugalbandhi by **Vid. Shafique Khan** (Sitar) & **Vid. Karthik Nagaraj** (violin) and troupe.

DASARA EVENTS TOMORROW (OCT. 24)

- **7 pm to 9 pm:** Layataranga by Vid. Giridhar Udupa and troupe, Bengaluru.

NOTE: As there are COVID-19 restrictions, all the events will be telecast live.
VISIT: ***https://mysore.nic.in/en/mysuru-dasara-2020/***

IPL 2020

Today's Match (OCT. 23)

CSK Vs MI
Sharjah Cricket Stadium, Sharjah, **7.30 pm (IST)**

Tomorrow's Matches (OCT. 24)

KKR Vs DC
Sheikh Zayed Stadium, Abu Dhabi, **3.30 pm (IST)**

KXIP Vs SRH
Dubai Intl. Cricket Stadium, Dubai, **7.30 pm (IST)**

Yesterday's Result

RR 154/6 (20 Overs)
lose to
SRH 156/2 (18.1 Overs)

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EVENTS TODAY (OCT. 23)

- **Indian Railways:** Railway Museum, opposite CFTRI Main Gate, **up to 8 pm.**
- **Ramsons Kala Pratishtana (RKP):** 16th edition of Bombe Mane, an exhibition of exquisite dolls, Bombe Mane auditorium, #91, above 'Aamrapali Sarees' shop, Nazarbad Main Road, **up to 7.30 pm.**
- **Trayinyas Shrividya Foundation:** 24th Sharannavarathri Mahotsava, Sri Dashashyamala Homa and Sri Dashavaarahi Homa, #8, 7th Main, 3rd Block, Jayalakshmipuram, **5.30 pm.**
- **Hemmige Srivaishnava Sabha - Cultural Wing:** Navaratri Series, Vocal Concert by Vid. Prashant Hemmige and troupe, livestreaming on Facebook page *[https://www.facebook.com/HemmigeSriVaishnavaSabha/]*, **6.30 pm.**

EVENTS TOMORROW (OCT. 24)

- **Trayinyas Shrividya Foundation:** 24th Sharannavarathri Mahotsava, Mahabhisheka, Sri Gowri, Srividya Deepa Durga Puja, Saptashati Parayana, Lalitopakhyana Parayana, Sri Chakrarchane and Sri Sundarakanda Parayana, **8.30 am;** Srividya Shodasha Durga Homa, #8, 7th Main, 3rd Block, Jayalakshmipuram, **5.30 pm.**
- **Sri Chandramoliswara Swamy Devasthanam Charitable Trust:** Trikala Tridevi Puja, Kumari Puja, **8.30 am;** Brahmachari Puja, **9 am;** Sumangali Puja, Temple Road, Vani Vilas Mohalla, **5 pm.**
- **Indian Railways:** Railway Museum, KRS Road, opposite CFTRI Main Gate, **10 am to 8 pm.**
- **Ramsons Kala Pratishtana (RKP):** 16th edition of Bombe Mane, an exhibition of exquisite dolls, Bombe Mane auditorium, #91, above 'Aamrapali Sarees' shop, Nazarbad Main Road, **10 am to 7.30 pm.**
- **Mysuru City and District Freedom Fighters Association:** 74th anniversary of Mysuru Chalo Movement, Corporator Prameela Bharath inaugurates, Association President Y.C. Revanna presides, hoisting of National flag, procession on Chamaraja Double Road up to Ramaswamy Circle where the Ramaswamy Memorial plaque will be garlanded and returning to the Venue, Freedom Fighters Memorial Hall, Subbarayanakere, **10.30 am.**
- **Sri Thyagaraja Sangeetha Sabha Charitable Trust, Mysuru:** 'Yuva Sangeetha Sambhrama-2020,' series of online music concerts showcasing promising next generation artistes, opening concert by Vidu. Madhuri Koushik, accompanied by Vid. M.S. Jayaram (mridanga), Vid. M.J. Prasannakumar (ghata) and Vidu. C.V. Shruthi (violin), Trust YouTube Channel [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5duKEUSvk8XXBra6TWQnSA], **5 pm.**
- **Hemmige Srivaishnava Sabha - Cultural Wing:** Navaratri Series, Flute Concert by Vid. G. Ravikiran and troupe, livestreaming on Facebook page *[https://www.facebook.com/HemmigeSriVaishnavaSabha/]*, **6.30 pm.**

NOW SHOWING - MOVIES

DRC CINEMAS Ph: 4240422, 4241800
NOTE: This Dasara enjoy movies at DRC for Rs. 50 only (valid till Oct. 29)

Spider Man : Home Coming - 2D (E)	(S-1)	11.45 am
	(S-1)	8.00 pm
Munirathna Kurukshetra -2D (K)	(S-1)	4.00 pm
Shivarjuna (K)	(S-2)	1.30 pm
Tagaru (K)	(S-2)	4.45 pm
KGF-1 (K)	(S-2)	7.30 pm
	(S-4)	11.45 am
Kotigobba 2 (K)	(S-3)	11.00 am
	(S-3)	8.00 pm
Mufti (K)	(S-3)	4.30 pm

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Kabir Singh (H)	(S-1)	2.40 pm
	(S-1)	6.40 pm
KGF - 1 (K)	(S-2)	3.15 pm
	(S-2)	7.15 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there are no minimum audience of 15 to the film announced here. **The other multiplexes and single screen theatres are yet to open.**

Govt. mulls Act against fraudulent companies for cheating investors

Bengaluru, Oct.23 (KMS&DM)- In a move aimed at acting against fraudulent companies (generally known as blade companies) which cheat investors on the promise of attractive interest, the Karnataka Government is mulling on enforcing an Act to protect the interests of the investors.

In the wake of Bengaluru's IMA (I-Monetary Advisory) ponzi scam and Guru Raghavendra Co-operative Bank fraud involving thousands of crores of rupees, the State Cabinet which met here on Thursday, is said to have resolved to introduce an Act by the name 'Karnataka unregulated Fixed Deposit Schemes Prohibition Act-2020'.

The salient features of the Karnataka Act will be based on a similar Act framed by the Centre in 2019. The Cabinet decided to introduce a Bill in this regard in the next Assembly session and get the legislation passed.

The Act, once introduced, will prohibit private financial companies from collecting unregulated cash deposits from investors. The Act will have a good number of provisions for safeguarding the money of investors.

The public can file complaint with the competent authority if any financial company is found collecting uncontrolled number of fixed deposits from investors. The Authority has the power to act on the complaint and take measures for attaching the properties of the finance company in question, according to sources.

In another major decision, the Cabinet decided to continue 'Bhagyalakshmi Bond' scheme through the Postal Department's 'Sukanya Samruddhi' scheme, instead of the current agency, Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC). As per the provision of 'Bhagyalakshmi Bond' scheme, the beneficiary girl child is entitled to get Rs.1 lakh upon attainment of 18 years of age, for which the Government had entered into an agreement with LIC. But as the LIC used to raise objections for paying Rs.1 lakh upon maturity of the Bond, the Government decided to change the agency, by replacing LIC with Postal Department, it is learnt.

MCC to call for tenders in fortnight to install LED streetlights

Mysuru,Oct.23(PM&DM)- Days after the State Government sanctioned Rs.110 crore for installation of LED bulbs for streetlighting in city, MCC Commissioner Gurudatta Hegde said tenders will be invited in a fortnight. Speaking to presspersons at his office here yesterday, Hegde said that a Powerpoint Presentation was made for Mayor and Corporators on the advantages of LED bulbs installation for streetlights. Pointing out that the Urban Development Department has called a meeting for finalising the terms and conditions of the contract, he said that the tenders will be invited soon if there are no major changes from the normal process. Noting that the city currently has 9,000 LED bulbs on streetlights, he said that 52,000 more LED bulbs were needed to be installed, by replacing the existing other bulbs.

MLA Nagendra inspects Trauma Care Centre in city

Asks officials to prepare a 250-bed unit to treat COVID patients

Mysuru, Oct. 23 (SPN&KS)- Chamaraja MLA L. Nagendra on Wednesday, inspected the ongoing works of the new and ultra-modern Mysuru Trauma Care Centre in PKTB premises on KRS Road and conducted an inspection.

The MLA conducted an inspection as the works of the Trauma Care Centre and the Super Speciality Hospital buildings are in the final stages and also to look at the installation of necessary medical equipment and other machinery at the hospital.

Speaking to media persons, Nagendra said that the State Government had released Rs. 33 crore for the construction of the hospital and added that Rs. 4 crore extra grant was released for four modular operation theatres for 40 at the bed hospital, oxygen generating system and for oxygen manufacturing system following a request.

He further said that using the above grants, the officials should take steps to convert the hospital into a 250 bed unit to treat COVID patients and added that he has asked the officials concerned to come for a discussion with relevant documents if they were facing any problems after Dasara.

Mysore Medical College and Research Institute (MMC&RI) Dean and Director Dr. C.P. Nanjaraj, Health Department's Executive Engineer Srinath, Assistant Executive Engineer Kumar, PWD Executive Engineer Siddegowda, Assistant Engineer Nagaraj, Medical Superintendent, Resident Medical Officer and others were present.

Stir by Silk Factory employees enters sixth day

Silk Factory employees staging protest in front of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's statue in Town Hall premises yesterday.

Mysuru, Oct. 23 (RKB&KS)- The massive indefinite stir launched by the contract employees of Government-run Silk Factory on Manandavadi Road in city, under the banner of Silk Weaving Factory Employees Union, entered sixth day today, with the employees staging protest near the office of the Deputy Commissioner (DC) after they were denied to stage protest anywhere near the factory.

The protestors, who were seeking fulfilment of their demands, which chiefly included regularisation of employees who were appointed on compassionate grounds, hike in wages and payment of wage dues for the lockdown period among others, are staging a protest for a different reason since yesterday. To take back the suspension orders of 39 employees. The 39 employees were suspended for staging protest, the agitators alleged.

Meanwhile, Congress leader N.M. Naveen Kumar, who is spearheading the protest, said that though the employees reported to work after the Additional Deputy Commissioner intervened, 39 employees were handed over suspension orders for protesting against the Administrative Board. He also alleged that there was discrepancies in wages and added that though the salaries of the employees is about Rs. 18,000, they were being paid only Rs. 9,000 and demanded a probe into it.

The protestors demanded the intervention of the District Administration and direct the Karnataka Silk Industries Corporation (KSIC) Administrative Board to revoke the suspension order and also to remove KSIC MD Leela Manjunath.

The protestors warned of staging a protest along with their families and also gherao Chief Minister B.S. Yeddiyurappa when he comes to Mysuru.

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